

In the increasingly busy world in which we live, it is vitally important to recognize the efforts of those who give freely of their own time. Without volunteers, many services would go unprovided.

In 1995 alone, the North Miami Foundation provided to North Dade's elderly 26,545 hours of chore service, 38,388 hours of friendly companionship visits, and 56,519 telephone reassurance calls. In addition, 6,227 hours of special projects were conducted by local organizations and schools. These volunteer hours are equivalent to 47 full-time staff positions.

It can easily be seen that the North Miami Foundation is exactly that: a foundation. Upon their shoulders rest thousands of people who can not as easily help themselves. The groundwork that they and their volunteers provide is truly the basis on which a community is built. I am proud to say that they are part of my constituency and rise today to thank each volunteer for their efforts.

TRIBUTE TO REV. CURLEE  
WINDHAM

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 30, 1996*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I want to recognize Rev. Curlee Windham for his longstanding service to God and the community of Brooklyn and the members of Liberty Baptist Church. Reverend Windham is a native of St. George, SC. Employed as a New York Housing Authority housing inspector, Reverend Windham is guided by spiritual faith and devotion.

As the pastor of Liberty Baptist Church he has been instrumental in mentoring and creating spiritual leadership within the church community and the community at-large. Under the pastor's religious and organizational direction his congregation has retired the mortgage on his church. Additionally programs that nourish the soul, body, and mind have been developed under Pastor Windham's guidance. His initiatives include a 12-step program of Narcotics Anonymous, and programs that provide food, clothing, tutoring, and community outreach.

Reverend Windham has established himself as a pillar and visionary in the community. On May 3, 1996, he will celebrate his 13th anniversary of service to God, his church, and the community. I am pleased to recognize his selfless efforts and dedicated service.

ALLISON OWENS WINNER IN VOICE  
OF DEMOCRACY CONTEST

HON. TOM BEVILL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 30, 1996*

Mr. BEVILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my constituent, Allison Owens of Gadsden, who is the State winner of the Voice of Democracy broadcast scriptwriting contest, sponsored by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States and its ladies auxiliary.

I am very proud of Allison who wrote a stirring script based on the patriotic theme, "Answering America's Call."

With your permission, I would like to submit her winning script for the RECORD:

ANSWERING AMERICA'S CALL

(By Allison Owens)

SSSHH. Can you hear it? It echoes in our spacious skies, it rings from purple mountainside, and crashes in our waves, from sea to shining sea. It is America's call. Can you hear it?

Washington heard it as he took a challenge many would not face by becoming this country's first President. As a general, he took many risks for this great country because he heard her call to him. But, America does not call without firmness. The call to her people is not weak. But, is strong and stern. Abraham Lincoln heard it as he took the measures needed to preserve his country in its greatest hour of trial—The Civil War. Theodore Roosevelt heard it. His answer prepared America for her role in the twentieth century as he built the world's first modern Navy. Franklin D. Roosevelt heard her call, though it was not an easy one. He responded by saying "Let me assert my firm belief that the only thing we have to fear is fear itself."

But, fear is little when you live in a country as strong as our America; we proved this in WWII. Her call is reflected with determination by her people. The slogan of the U.S. Air Force is "The difficult we do immediately, the impossible takes a little longer." Some of America's calls are quite difficult.

John F. Kennedy heard it. "A Nation of Immigrants," he called her. And, we are. Sometimes, people especially from such a diverse group of backgrounds, have a difficult time understanding each other. Kennedy also said "In the final analysis, our most basic common link is that we all inhabit this small planet. We all breathe the same air. We all cherish our children's future. And we all are mortal." Kennedy answered her call by submitting civil rights legislation to Congress to ensure equality for all. America is calling for unity. E Pluribus Unum—From Many—One. That is America. That is her call. Do you hear it?

America is facing many more trials. Her people are suffering. Franklin D. Roosevelt also said, "The test of our progress is not whether we add more to the abundance of those who have much, it is whether we provide enough for those who have too little." He answered this call by passing Social Security legislation to protect all Americans from catastrophes like the depression. America is still today calling for those who have no voice. Can you hear it?

Ronald Reagan heard it. He held the hand of a dying American spirit. He heard her call for what many people thought would be the last time. Spirit like ours. DOES NOT DIE, but will live forever no matter what trials may come our way. We overcame Vietnam. We overcame Watergate. We overcame the Iranian Hostage Crisis. Every time America has called, her people have answered. America is calling for a resurrection of triumph. We will overcome the seemingly impossible trials that lay in our path. America will never die. Answering America's call keeps her alive. Can you hear it?

Do you hear her calling to you? In big ways and small, she calls to us for we are Americans, and answering this call is part of our duty. Not just for this country, but for the world. Dwight D. Eisenhower heard it and said "Whatever America hopes to pass in this world must first come to pass in the heart of America." The Heart of America, where her call begins. Is the Heart of America not the heart of her people? Is the call of America not the call of her people? Of our people, the young, the old, the poor, the prosperous, the weak, and the strong. The

ones who call to us loudly, and the ones who suffer silently. They are all America's calls. Can you hear it? Will you answer? Theodore Roosevelt said, "There can be no 50/50 Americanism in this country. There is room here for only 100% Americanism." And how can you be 100% American if you do not answer America's call? Listen, can you hear it? I can!

HONORING THE PEA RIDGE  
VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 30, 1996*

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I am taking this opportunity to applaud the invaluable services provided by the Pea Ridge Volunteer Fire Department. These brave, civic-minded people give freely of their time so that we may all feel safer at night.

Few realize the depth of training and hard work that goes into being a volunteer firefighter. To quote one of my local volunteers, "These fireman must have an overwhelming desire to do for others while expecting nothing in return."

Preparation includes twice monthly training programs in which they have live drills, study the latest videos featuring the latest in firefighting tactics, as well as attend seminars where they can obtain the knowledge they need to save lives. Within a year of becoming a volunteer firefighter, most attend the Tennessee fire training school in Murfreesboro where they undergo further, intensified training.

When the residents of my district go to bed at night, they know that should disaster strike and their home catch fire, well trained and qualified volunteer fire departments are ready and willing to give so graciously and generously of themselves. This peace of mind should not be taken for granted.

By selflessly giving of themselves, they ensure a safer future for us all. We owe these volunteer fire departments a debt of gratitude for their service and sacrifice.

ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

SPEECH OF

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 24, 1996*

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I want to join my colleagues today in remembering the tragedy endured by the Armenian people in the years 1915-23.

Extensive massacres of Armenians took place during that period in eastern Anatolian plains in an atmosphere akin to a horrible civil war. Those events have indelibly and permanently marked the consciousness of many Americans, including Americans of Armenian descent, who are commemorating April 24, 1996, as a national day of remembrance of man's inhumanity to man and a special day of remembrance for the Armenian victims of strife in the early years of this century.

April 24 marks the 81st anniversary of the calamity. It is appropriate on this occasion to